

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/657,965

Examiner

Kathleen J. Prunner

Applicant(s)

SPREITZER, ELEANOR FRENCH

Art Unit

3751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the papers filed September 9, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 090903
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 1-16, 18 and 19 is the inclusion in claim 1 of the toilet accessory concealment and toilet bowl evacuation apparatus designed to house at least one toilet brush when the apparatus is not in use and when the apparatus is in use it receives a first predetermined quantity of liquid, that when rapidly poured into a toilet bowl containing an initial quantity of liquid, starts siphonic action which thereby removes a majority of the predetermined quantity of liquid and a majority of the initial quantity of liquid such that the toilet bowl may be easily cleaned, comprising a primary compartment that is water-tight having a closed proximal end having a base surface, an interior surface, an exterior surface, an open distal end, and at least one sidewall having at least one gripping device, where the primary compartment is sized to retain the first predetermined quantity of liquid, and wherein the interior surface has a plurality of indicia reflective of a volume of the predetermined volume of liquid, a cover sized to cooperate with the open distal end of the primary compartment and having at least one ventilation passage and at least one gripping device, wherein the cover is configured to obscure the view of the interior surface of the primary compartment, and a secondary compartment that is water-tight having a closed proximal end having a base surface, an interior surface, an exterior surface, an open distal end and at least one sidewall having at least one gripping device, where the secondary compartment is sized to releasably retain an accessory and contain a second predetermined quantity of liquid when the accessory is removed. None of the art cited disclose these concepts.

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 17 is the inclusion in the claim of the toilet accessory concealment and toilet bowl evacuation apparatus designed to house at least one toilet brush when the apparatus is not in use and when the apparatus is in use it receives a first predetermined quantity of liquid, that when rapidly poured into a toilet bowl containing an initial quantity of liquid, starts siphonic action which thereby removes a majority of the predetermined quantity of liquid and a majority of the initial quantity of liquid such that the toilet bowl may be

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easily cleaned, comprising a primary compartment that is water-tight having a closed proximal end having a base surface, an interior surface, an exterior surface, an open distal end, wherein a distance separating the primary compartment distal end and the primary compartment proximal end is less than approximately 18 inches thereby permitting the primary compartment to receive the first predetermined quantity of liquid from a bathtub faucet, and at least one sidewall having at least one handle and at least one spout, where the primary compartment is sized to retain the first predetermined quantity of liquid in a quantity of at least 1.66 liters, and wherein the interior surface has a plurality of indicia reflective of a volume of the predetermined volume of liquid, a cover sized to cooperate with the open distal end of the primary compartment and having at least one ventilation passage and at least one gripping device, wherein the cover is configured to obscure the view of the interior surface of the primary compartment, and a secondary compartment that is water-tight having a closed proximal end having a base surface, an interior surface, an exterior surface, an open distal end, wherein a distance separating the secondary compartment distal end and the secondary compartment proximal end is less than approximately 6 inches thereby permitting the secondary compartment to receive the second predetermined quantity of liquid from a lavatory faucet, and at least one sidewall having at least one handle and at least one spout, where the secondary compartment is sized to releasably retain a roll of toilet paper elevated within the secondary compartment by a roll elevator to separate the roll of toilet paper from the secondary compartment interior surface. None of the art cited disclose these concepts.

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 20 is the inclusion in the claim of the toilet accessory concealment and toilet bowl evacuation apparatus designed to house at least one toilet brush when the apparatus is not in use and when the apparatus is in use it receives a first predetermined quantity of liquid, that when rapidly poured into a toilet bowl containing an initial quantity of liquid, starts siphonic action which thereby removes a majority of the predetermined quantity of liquid and a majority of the initial quantity of liquid such that the toilet bowl may be easily cleaned, comprising a primary compartment that is water-tight having a closed proximal

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end having a base surface, an interior surface having an anti-microbial coating, an exterior surface, an open distal end, wherein a distance separating the primary compartment distal end and the primary compartment proximal end is less than approximately 18 inches thereby permitting the primary compartment to receive the first predetermined quantity of liquid from a bathtub faucet, and at least one sidewall having at least one handle and at least one spout, where the primary compartment is sized to retain the first predetermined quantity of liquid in a quantity of at least 1.66 liters, and wherein the interior surface has a plurality of indicia reflective of a volume of the predetermined volume of liquid, a cover including a ventilated openable compartment capable of releasably containing a replenishable predetermined quantity of air freshener, the cover sized to cooperate with the open distal end of the primary compartment and having at least one ventilation passage and at least one gripping device, wherein the cover is configured to obscure the view of the interior surface of the primary compartment, and a secondary compartment that is water-tight having a closed proximal end having a base surface, an interior surface having an anti-microbial coating, an exterior surface, an open distal end, wherein a distance separating the secondary compartment distal end and the secondary compartment proximal end is less than approximately 6 inches thereby permitting the secondary compartment to receive the second predetermined quantity of liquid from a lavatory faucet, and at least one sidewall having at least one handle and at least one spout, where the secondary compartment is sized to releasably retain a roll of toilet paper elevated within the secondary compartment by a roll elevator to separate the roll of toilet paper from the secondary compartment interior surface, wherein the primary compartment, the secondary compartment, and the cover are formed to collectively appear as a decorative object. None of the art cited disclose these concepts.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kathleen J. Prunner whose telephone number is 703-306-9044.
3. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory L. Huson can be reached on 703-308-2580. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kathleen J. Prunner

September 30, 2004



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